

**Profile of  
Renee Redman  
Senior Lecturer, Department of Biology  
University of Wisconsin–La Crosse  
2021 Regents Teaching Excellence Individual Award Recipient**

**Highlights from nomination materials:**

- Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Department of Pharmacology, Northwestern University Medical School; Ph.D., Cell, Molecular, and Structural Biology, Northwestern University Medical School; B.S., Marine Biology/Biology, University of North Carolina at Wilmington.
- Joined the UW-La Crosse (UWL) faculty as a senior lecturer in 2005; over her career, has taught over 13,000 students and a variety of classes, including Introductory Biology, General Biology for Majors, Anatomy and Physiology I and II, Cell Biology, Genetics, Senior Capstone, and Health, Wellness and Disease at UWL alone.
- Took the lead in developing a high-quality BIO 105 Master Canvas course with seven other instructors; the purpose of the initiative was to enhance the division of labor as well as ensure that core materials were covered regardless of instructor or format. By dividing up the course and generating modules, course planning around a complicated, expansive topic became easier.
- Instrumental in three grant-supported course redesigns during the COVID-19 pandemic; the courses are part of UWL's core curriculum, affecting thousands of students each year. In one case, led the Cell Biology group in modifying lectures and labs for online use, revising modules on immunofluorescence and bioinformatics and working with the other cell biology instructors to divide up the tasks associated with the cell division module.
- Advises approximately 30 students each semester. Coordinates the Cell biology labs.
- Uses a variety of teaching techniques in her classroom, including interactive polling technology, small group projects, in-class discussions, and creative art projects to help teach biology in a way that connects with students' learning styles.
- Select awards: Faculty of the Year, part of the Eagle Sport, School, and Life Yearly Awards (2019-20); Eagle Teaching Excellence Award, a student-driven recognition (2018), Provost's Teaching Excellence Award (2018).

**In Renee Redman's own words:**

- "I try to instill a growth mindset from the first day of class. Students feel accomplished when they learn how to achieve success in the current course, and this carries over to success in future classes. What makes each semester exciting and rewarding is knowing that I can possibly make a difference in a student's life, not just now during the semester, but potentially down the road. Watching a student struggle and then figure it out, that 'Ah-ha' moment makes every 7:45 a.m. lecture worth getting ready for."

**In the words of colleagues:**

- "Dr. Redman is a gifted educator known for going above and beyond, particularly in courses that are seen as challenging. She is renowned, both in the Biology department and across the UWL College of Science and Health, for creating unique and clever activities to assist students in retaining information. Her care and dedication to refining her teaching techniques is not lost on her students and is often remarked upon when the opportunity presents itself. Frequently, in course evaluations and award nominations, we hear about Dr. Redman's admirable patience and willingness to explain or demonstrate a concept as many ways as necessary for it to 'click' with her audience." — *Betsy Morgan, Provost, UW-La Crosse*
- "Time and time again, Renee has keenly identified barriers to learning and pursued change with the perfect balance of passion and pragmatism. At times, the changes have been small tweaks to a lecture or an assignment while other instances have called for an overhaul of a project, or even an entire class. She is not simply an ideas person; she is the first to roll up her sleeves and get to work." — *Jennifer A. Miskowski, Professor, UW-La Crosse*